

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR
AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF BOONEVILLE
OCTOBER 15, 2013**

BE IT REMEMBERED that the regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Alderman of the City of Booneville, Mississippi was held on Tuesday, October 15, 2013, at the City Hall at 7:00 p.m., the time and place for said meeting.

Those in attendance were the following members of the Board: Alderman Harold Eaton, Alderman Mark McCoy, Alderman Jason Michael, and Alderman Jeff Williams. Alderman Bolen was not present. Also, present were Daniel K. Tucker, City Attorney, Lavaile Shields, City Clerk, and several City employees and visitors. The meeting was called to order in open session by Mayor Blythe and a quorum was declared present.

The invocation was given by Alderman Jeff Williams.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Alderman Harold Eaton.

There first came on for consideration, the request to approve the consent agenda. The items on the consent agenda were as follows:

- (1) To approve the board minutes for September 23, September 30, and October 1, 2013;
- (2) To accept the resignation of Jon Benjamin Ashcraft, in the Fire Department, effective October 8, 2013;
- (3) To accept J. D. Moore's letter of resignation, effective immediately;
- (4) To send Bradley Cain to the MDEQ Fall Training, at Batesville, Mississippi, from October 22 thru October 24, 2013, with the costs to include registration, lodging, and meals, in the amount of \$446.18;
- (5) To pay Magnolia State Probation \$155;
- (6) To refund Jodie Katherine Roach restitution in the amount of \$440.00;
- (7) To approve sending Lavaile Shields and Jana Lindsey to attend the 2013 Winter Education Conference, from December 18 thru December 20, 2013, in Jackson, Mississippi, with the costs to include meals, lodging, registration, and gas cards, in the amount of \$624.00;
- (8) To approve signing the Delta Computer Software Agreement in the amount of \$570.00 monthly;
- (9) To approve completing the Municipal Compliance Questionnaire;
- (10) To place in the minutes, a list of all insolvent and delinquent personal property taxpayers;

- (11) To post for Housing Authority appointment;
- (12) To send Police Chief Michael Ramey and Carolyn Jones to attend the MCDEMA Conference from November 11-November 13, 2013 at Philadelphia, Mississippi, with the costs to include registration, gas card, lodging, and meals, in the approximate amount of \$884.00;
- (13) To accept the donation of a 1996 Dodge Van to the Police Department to be used on a work program with said being donated by Timber Hills.

Alderman Williams made a motion to approve the items on the consent agenda, seconded by Alderman Michael, and with the Aldermen present and voting "Aye", the motion carried.

There next came on for discussion, Booneville Main Street Association discussing the details of the upcoming Fall Festival, set for October 17 thru October 19, 2013.

There next came on for consideration, Fire Chief Jerry Wallace requesting that the City approve purchasing a rescue tool from TNT (jaws of life), in the amount of \$19,834.00. Alderman McCoy made a motion to approve said purchase, seconded by Alderman Michael, and with the Aldermen present and voting "Aye", the motion carried.

There next came on for consideration, the request to approve the policy for customer extensions at the Gas & Water Department. The recommended policy would be that customers would be allowed only one extension per calendar year, with a zero tolerance after that extension, for that calendar year. Alderman Michael made a motion to approve said policy, seconded by Alderman Eaton, and with the Aldermen present and voting "Aye", the motion carried.

There next came on for consideration, the request to ratify the gas rate at \$12.04 per MCF. Said motion made by Alderman McCoy, seconded by Alderman Michael, and with the Aldermen present and voting "Aye", the motion carried.

There next came before the Board for discussion purposes, Ashley Hurt, City Court Clerk, giving an update on the progress at the City Court Clerk Office.

There next came on for consideration, the request by Mayor Derrick Blythe, to move the Administrative Assistant under the supervision and control of the City Clerk. Alderman Williams made said motion, seconded by Alderman McCoy, and with the Aldermen present and voting "Aye", the motion carried.

There next came on for consideration, discussion of adding certain policies to the Employee Handbook. Those policies would be:

1. Direction on what to do with sick time that employees have accrued over ninety (90) days. Lavaile Shields is going to obtain a list of employees who had sick leave over ninety (90) days for the Board to review this.

2. To add the policy to the handbook for comp time. The policy as adopted by the Board would be that no salaried employee would receive comp time.

3. To add the policy to the handbook, regarding part time employees to be considered first for full time employment. That policy had been passed by the City and because the City follows all EEOC regulations in hiring part time help, that would not be an issue. This policy however would not create any contract of employment or guarantee any part time employee with an automatic right to a job, just that they would be considered first.

The employee handbook would be amended at the same time, once the sick leave issue was decided.

There next came on for consideration, the request to seek quotes for cutting and/or removal of trees along the right of way, along Bishop, College, and Elm streets. Alderman McCoy made said motion, seconded by Alderman Williams, and with the Aldermen present and voting "Aye", the motion carried.

There next came on for consideration, the request to approve the final order for tax exemption request by Plumrose. Alderman Williams made said motion, seconded by Alderman Eaton, and with the Aldermen present and voting "Aye", the motion carried.

There next came on for consideration, the rumble strip policy. Alderman Michael made a motion to table this matter until all Aldermen were present, seconded by Alderman William, and with the Aldermen present and voting "Aye", the motion carried.

There next came on for consideration, the request to vote on an agenda policy. Alderman Michael made a motion to leave the policy as it was, but to strictly enforce the current policy, seconded by Alderman McCoy and the following vote was had:

Alderman Eaton "Nay,"

Alderman McCoy "Aye,"

Alderman Michael "Aye,"

Alderman Williams "Aye."

With a vote of three (3) for and one (1) against, the motion carried.

There next came on for consideration, the request to continue purchasing the Daily Journal at the costs of \$128.00 for a 52 weeks subscription. Alderman Williams made said motion, seconded by Alderman Michael, and with the Aldermen present and voting "Aye", the motion carried.

There next came on for consideration, the request to approve an ad from the Master Quartet, in the amount of \$50.00, that would promote the City of Booneville. Alderman Williams made a motion to approve said ad, seconded by Alderman McCoy, and with the Aldermen present and voting "Aye", the motion carried.

There next came on for consideration, the request to approve an ad for the City of Booneville, in the Booneville High School Band Calendar, in the amount of \$50.00. Said ad would promote the City of Booneville, Mississippi. Alderman Michael made said motion, seconded by Alderman Williams, and with the Aldermen present and voting "Aye", the motion carried.

There next came on for consideration, the request to purchase an ad in the Hometown Magazine Ad which was part of requirement for our retirement community status. The costs of said ad would be \$643.00, and would promote the City of Booneville. Alderman Williams made said motion, seconded by Alderman Eaton and the following vote was had:

Alderman Eaton "Aye,"

Alderman McCoy "Nay,"

Alderman Michael "Aye,"

Alderman Williams "Aye."

With a vote of three (3) for and one (1) against, the motion carried.

There next came on for consideration, the Mayor's Report. The Mayor advised the Board that he had talked to Police Chief Ramey, about informing his officers to turn the lights off and lock down the City Park at closing time.

Next, the Mayor requested that the City put off buying the Mayor's vehicle and use the money budgeted to renovate the City Hall and the Board Room. The Board requested that he at least charge mileage, since he was driving his own personal vehicle.

Next, Mayor Blythe informed the Board that a donation of real property was being made to the City of Booneville. Said property is located at 211 Brewer Street. He encouraged the Board members to go by and look at that property.

Next, Mayor Blythe reported that the overall ad valorem tax assessment would be down about

\$3,000,000 for the upcoming year, which would in turn mean about \$30,000 less in the General Fund.

There being no further business, Alderman Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderman Eaton, and with the Aldermen present and voting "Aye", the motion carried.


DERRICK R. BLYTHE, MAYOR

ATTEST:


LAVAILE SHIELDS, CITY CLERK